

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 18150 161542Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 PA-01 SIL-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /038 W
----- 029195 /70
R 161303Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0102

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MOTION PICTURE FLM FESTIVAL

1. THE CHARGE WAS CALLED INTO THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE MINISTER CONCERNING THE REFUSAL OF CINEMA INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION TO PROVIDE THE ALFRED HITCHCOCK FILM "THE RETROSPECTIVE" FOR THE FILM FESTIVAL. THE COMPANY WILL NOT SEND FILM BECAUSE THE GOI HAS CENSORED THE FILM "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" AND REFUSES TO ALLOW IT TO BE SHOWN AT THE FESTIVAL. THE MOI OFFICIAL STATED THAT IF THE COMPANY REFUSED TO PROVIDE THE HITCHCOCK FILM, THE MINISTRY WOULD BE FORCED TO RECONSIDER ITS OVERALL AGREEMENT WITH THE MOTION PICTURE EXPORT ASSOCIATION. THE MINISTRY OFFICIAL REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN PROCURING THE HITCHCOCK FILM AND SAID THAT IT WAS NOT UP TO A PRIVATE FOREIGN COMPANY TO TELL THE GOI WHICH FILM IT COULD CENSOR. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE THAT THE HITCHCOCK FILM IS TO BE SHOWN AT THE FILM FESTIVAL AND THE MINISTRY OFFICIAL WAS CONCERNED HOW THEY WOULD EXPLAIN WHY THE FILM WAS NOT SHOWN. IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING TO HAVE TO POINT TO THE CENSORING OF JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR AS THE REASON, HE SAID.

2. THE CHARGE RESPONDED THAT WE FULLY SUPPORTED THE FILM FESTIVAL BUT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS BETWEEN THE MOI AND THE MPEA, THE EMBASSY'S ROLE WAS LIMITED. HE URGED THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS, PARTICULARLY ON THE POINT OF THE AGREE-
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MENT BEING JEOPARDIZED IF THE COMPANY REFUSED TO SEND THE HITCHCOCK FILM BE OSLOD WITH MPEA. THE MOI OFFICIAL ADMITTED THAT THIS POINT HAD NOT BEEN RAISED WITH THE MPEA.

3. WE ARE INFORMING THE LOCAL MPEA REPRESENTATIVE AND SUGGEST YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO INFORM THE MPEA.

SCHNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS, MOTION PICTURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760463-1106
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761237/aaaabfqf.tel
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: SCUL, IN
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